



# The Voice of the Vineyards

The Weekly Electronic Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Healdsburg

“The mission of a bulletin is inform the membership,  
comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable”

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Editor/Publisher: **George Heath**  
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**WELCOME – President Dick Bertapelle**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Paul Jones**



## VISITING ROTARIANS

- Cathy King, Rotary Club of Park City, UT; more re Cathy found below
- Christina Miller, friend of Cathy King, from the Rotary Club of Park City, UT

## GUESTS of ROTARIANS

- Emily Martin; more re: Emily found below
- Jim Martin, Emily’s dad, from Illinois

## QUOTE of the DAY

- ✓ “The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees opportunity in every difficulty.”  
Winston Churchill

## NEW MEMBER INDUCTIONS

**President Dick Bertapelle** and Club Membership Chairperson **Jim Westfall** implemented a new member ceremony for **Cathy King** and **Emily Martin**. **Jim** pronounced both of them to be, at that very moment, the newest members of Rotary International. **President Dick** provided some information regarding Rotary International. **Cathy King** invited her friend from Park City, Christina Miller (a member of the Rotary Club of Park City), to witness her membership into our club. **Emily Martin** invited her father, who lives in Illinois, to be present while she was inducted as a new member of Rotary.



✚ **Cathy King** – Cathy has been involved as a Rotarian for many years, in Park City before moving to Healdsburg. In her previous club, **Cathy** was responsible for her club’s Interact (High School Rotary) Club, and with international Rotary projects, specifically having to do with needs in Guatemala. **Cathy** founded a non-profit organization, Canines with A Cause, and still manages that organization from her new home in Healdsburg.

✚ **Emily Martin**, who recently moved to Healdsburg from SF, and spent many of her years in Illinois and NYC, is originally from Winnetka, IL, where she lived in an active Rotary family. **Emily** produces an active blog, called The Jetsetting Fashionista. She has been active in Meals on Wheels and has produced many events in the wine and food industry (her specialty).



### **DISTRICT CONFERENCE – October 24th**

**President Dick Bertapelle** attended the District 5130 Annual District Meeting (Zoom) on October 24<sup>th</sup>, along with past president **Paul Frechette**. **Dick** noted that our club was in the spotlight three times during that meeting, with respect to the following:

- ❖ Close Knit Community Award—provided to our club by Past District Governor Kathy Flamson for specific work completed during the 2019 – 2020 Rotary year
- ❖ Polio Plus - #4 in District: our club produced the fourth highest PolioPlus donations in the District, which consists of 47 Rotary clubs.
- ❖ Rotary Foundation Giving - #9 in District: our club was the 9<sup>th</sup> overall in the District with regard to total Rotary Foundation Giving during the year.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **Crab Feast Update: Mark Decker** informed the club that there are several members working diligently, with weekly team meetings and smaller meetings as well. Mark asked our club members to send the Save The Date flyer (to be sent to us all via email once again) to all of our friends and contacts in such places as LinkedIn, Facebook, etc. This is a virtual event for the first time, and it will be extremely important to have a LOT of people bid on items, both in the Silent Auction leading up to the main event, and at the Live Auction on Saturday, October 12 at 7:00 p.m.
- **Marie Sparks Memorial Award** – Richard, Jr. & Tami Norgrove (our member **Richard Norgrove’s** son and daughter-in-law) received this award in the past week. Tami and Richard, Jr., were honored Monday, Oct. 19, with the award, an annual award that recognizes the volunteer efforts of locals.
- The Healdsburg-based non-profit, Reach for Home, led by Healdsburg Sunrise past president Colleen Carmichael, is holding its virtual fundraiser on November 19<sup>th</sup>. We are all encouraged to support this event.



## HAPPY DOLLARS RECOGNITION

- ✓ New member **Emily Martin** donated \$22 to the Education Fund in honor of her dad, who was present on today's Zoom call, to acknowledge his recent birthday.
- ✓ New member **Cathy King** wanted to honor her new member status and donated \$40 to the Education Fund.
- ✓ **Ric Helthall** and his wife, Georgia, recently had a vacation in Oregon. While there, **Ric** saw two bald eagles, and decided it was worthy to donate \$50 for each eagle to PolioPlus. Also, **Ric's** and Georgia's grandson just celebrated his 4<sup>th</sup> birthday, so he added \$4 to the total, bringing the PolioPlus benefit to \$104 from **Ric** today.

- ✓ **Eric Drew** wanted to acknowledge **Dave and Cathy** Anderson's success in selling their Geyserville Vineyard Club home. **Eric** donated \$100 to the Education Fund.



- ✓ **Dave Anderson** wanted to celebrate a football victory from his alma mater, Michigan. He donated \$100 to PolioPlus. **Dave** also challenged **Dick Bertapelle** to donate \$100 next week IF Michigan defeats Michigan State in a football game. In turn, **Dave** said he would donate yet another \$100 to PolioPlus IF Michigan State defeats Michigan. Fun stuff.

- ✓ **Fred Roberts** donated \$110 to PolioPlus because the University of Texas defeated Baylor in a football game over the weekend.

## TODAY'S PROGRAM

**Chris Vanden Heuvel – School Superintendent** was introduced by **President Dick**. Chris holds a bachelor's degree in International Studies from Westmont College and a Master's degree in Secondary Education from the University of California at Santa Barbara.

Chris's educational career started as a bilingual Social Studies, Spanish, and ESL Junior High and High School teacher in So. California and then Windsor, where he became a principal. Superintendent Vanden Heuvel joined the Healdsburg Unified School District in 2010 as Principal of Healdsburg High School, a position he held for 5 years. Prior to moving to Healdsburg, he served as Principal of Cali Calmecac Language Academy, a K-8 bilingual immersion charter school in Windsor, and Assistant Principal at Windsor High School.

Mr. Vanden Heuvel is married to Tasha, an educator and writer, with three children, ages 15-19.

Chris provided a LOT of terrific and meaningful information during his nearly 45-minute discussion. What follows are bullets from several salient points. We wish all club members could have attended this session to learn of all the terrific accomplishments, and challenges, the Healdsburg Unified School District is experiencing.

### **Accomplishments**

- Fully 57% of HHS graduates this past school year were eligible to attend the UC system. This is amongst the highest in the state
- HHS built a new gymnasium—photos showed this to be true.
- The HHS fields are being redone. Real grass was chosen instead of the fake stuff, partially because the fake stuff would've precluded the annual fireworks show from being held there.
- A new STEM classroom and renovated locker room were implemented at the Healdsburg Jr. HS.

### **Distance Learning**

- All Sonoma County public schools are required to maintain distance learning through December. Chris indicated that he and all Healdsburg (and likely all Sonoma County) educators sincerely want to bring students back to the classroom, but if and only if it is safe to do so for all concerned (students, teachers, aids, janitors, volunteers, etc.).
- Childcare options have been developed to provide assistance to families. The Boys and Girls Club hosts students in grades 6 to 12. Bus transportation is provided to students in need, and there is a sliding scale fee for families based on family income.

### **Connectivity**

- The Healdsburg Education Foundation (or "HEF") has provided Chromebooks for HJH and HHS students.
- The school district has provided Mobile Hotspots for those students with no home internet access. For students who live far from town, and have no access, transportation is provided to the Community Center where access is available.

### **Food Service**

- Children in need from the ages of 1 to 18 can receive free breakfast and lunch, funded and provided by the HUSD.

### **Mental Health & Social Emotional Well-Being**

- Students are having a difficult time with Distance Learning and trying to get used to life as we now know it. Some offerings to assist include Mindfulness training, so-called Circles of friendship, and Icebreakers.
- 2 professional psychologists are on the HUSD staff to assist with students in need.

### **Concerns**

- Throughout Sonoma County (and the entire state), there is a marked increase in students receiving D and F grades. Healdsburg is feeling this pain as well.
- Students have been surveyed, and their principal worry is reported to be anxiety about their future.
- A task force has been assembled to study student emotional needs at the HJH and HHS. There will be a county-wide summit on this subject commencing 10/27 and running through 11/5. Root causes of student anxiety, and other causes of failing grades, are being sought.

There was much more information relayed to our club today by Superintendent Chris. We will invite him back when more of the Covid dust settles (hopeful in a positive fashion) to provide us with updates.

## **CLOSING**

**President Dick** closed the meeting at 1:30, thanked guests for attending, and providing one more welcome to our new members **Cathy King** and **Emily Martin**.

## **UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

- **Nov. 2nd:** David Fichtner – Putin’s Information War - Continued
- **Nov. 9th:** Veterans Day Tribute & Nepal Girls School
- **Nov. 16th:** Club Assembly: Virtual Crab Feast Planning Session